

Judge Ken Schubert

Judge Schubert joined the King County Superior Court bench on January 14, 2013 after his election to an open seat the prior year. He was re-elected in 2016. He is currently assigned to the Criminal Department after serving as the Chief Civil Judge for 2018. He previously presided in the Ex Parte and Probate and Civil Departments and was the presiding judge for the Involuntary Treatment Act Court. He served on the King County Superior Court's Executive Committee, Budget Committee, and Commissioner Selection Committee. He has previously chaired the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee and served on the Personnel, Courts and Community, and Sealed Files/Adoption Committees. He is also active in the Superior Court Judges Committee, chairing the Public Outreach Committee, and serving on the Equality and Fairness and Guardianship and Probate Committees. Judge Schubert, a Seattle native, has worked in both civil and criminal law. His criminal experience includes working as an investigator for The Defender Association before attending law school, working as an extern for the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Washington during law school, and later serving short stints as a special deputy prosecutor for both the Multnomah District Attorney's Office and the King County Prosecutor's Office. After law school, he clerked for Justice Gerry Alexander in Olympia and then began his career with and became a partner at Garvey Schubert Barer, where he resolved a wide variety of disputes on behalf of individuals and institutions, including complex civil litigation, fiduciary claims, and trust and estate contests in court and through mediation and arbitration. He also donated free legal services on behalf of civil rights claimants and domestic violence victims. During the two and a half years before becoming a superior court judge, Judge Schubert worked primarily as a pro tem judge in municipal and district courts throughout King County.

Judge Schubert has been and remains active in the community and the bar. He serves on the Pretrial Reform Task Force and served on the Race and Criminal Justice Task Force. He is the Treasurer for the Washington Judges' Foundation and is currently the Content Editor for the Washington Lawyer's Practice Manual, Chapter 4 (Guide to County Courthouses) and the primary author for the King County Courthouse subchapter. He served for two terms as the Secretary on the Executive Committee of the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington and is a former Treasurer for his daughter's public elementary school PTA. He was twice elected President of his neighborhood's community council and has served on the boards of a half-dozen non-profit organizations as well as the KCBA Judicial Officer Survey Committee. Judge Schubert has taught trial advocacy at the University of Washington School of Law and the National Institute for Trial Advocacy. He also has served as a senior advocacy fellow for Seattle University's Korematsu Center for Law and Equality.

Judge Schubert earned his bachelor's degree with distinction at Occidental College, where he majored in politics, and his law degree from the UW School of Law.